

INL *Intelligence*

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A high-level monthly briefing on operations and activities at the U.S. Department of Energy's Idaho National Laboratory
Work at the lab advances the Department's strategic priorities of energy security, nuclear security, scientific discovery and environmental responsibility.

■ **INL Opens Advanced Nuclear Design Center**

INL has joined forces with international engineering firm Burns & Roe and nuclear fuels analysis software leader Studsvik Scandpower to establish the Center for Nuclear Systems Design and Analysis (CNSDA) at INL. The center will serve as a research, design and development resource where scientists will use cutting edge technology to develop advanced nuclear fuel cycle and reactor concepts and designs. It's expected to perform a vital role in helping new nuclear reactor technology make the transition from blueprint to working product. Burns & Roe has appointed David Hebditch to direct CNSDA, with Kord Smith of Studsvik Scandpower serving as deputy director. Hebditch will report to Dr. Phillip Finck, INL associate laboratory director for Nuclear Programs.

■ **Idaho Researcher to Lead Proliferation Prevention Effort**

INL researcher Trudy Overlin has been selected by the Department of Energy to serve a two-year term as chairwoman of the Interlaboratory Board of the Global Initiatives for Proliferation Prevention. The program was established by DOE in 1994 as a way to redirect weapons scientists from the former Soviet Union to use their science backgrounds and knowledge to work on peaceful, nonmilitary projects. By engaging and creating new career opportunities for scientists, the program enhances U.S. national security. Recently, the program expanded work into Libya and Iraq. As chairwoman, Overlin will be active in current research programs, will assist in the evaluation of new technology proposals and will serve as a liaison between DOE and 12 participating laboratories. Overlin is the first INL employee to serve in this position.

■ **Regional Government and Business Leaders Tour INL**

State/provincial legislators, government officials and industry leaders from the Pacific Northwest and Western Canada met in Idaho Falls late this month for a Pacific Northwest Economic Region conference (PNWER). The officials toured INL facilities, learned about the laboratory's programs in electric power grid reliability and security, as well as the lab's nuclear and renewable/alternate energy research and development programs. PNWER is a public-private partnership representing the American states and Canadian provinces of Alaska, Alberta, British Columbia, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington and the Yukon. PNWER's mission is to foster sustainable economic development throughout the entire region.

■ **INL Associate Lab Director Named Trustee of Environmental Group**

J.W. Rogers Jr., INL associate laboratory director for Science and Technology and chief research officer, has been elected to a three-year term as a trustee to the Idaho Chapter of The Nature Conservancy. He will play a role with other trustees in finding ways to protect priority plant, animal and other natural communities in Idaho – including areas of the INL site – where large landscape-level research, management and restoration activities may be conducted. The Nature Conservancy works in all 50 states and more than 30 foreign countries to conserve at least 10 percent of every major habitat type on the planet.

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